

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.
PCT/FR2005/000474

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01G3/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC:

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01L G01G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	AA US 4 511 877 A (NISHIKAWA HISASHI ET AL) 16 April 1985 (1985-04-16) column 2, line 44 - line 56 column 3, line 19 - column 4, line 8 column 5, line 64 - column 6, line 14 figures 4-6	1,3-6
Y		2,7-9
X	AO EP 0 789 234 A (KOMATSU MFG CO LTD) 13 August 1997 (1997-08-13) column 1, line 5 - line 19 column 2, line 15 - line 40 column 4, line 54 - column 5, line 40 figure 1	1
Y	AB US 5 847 329 A (PITAUD BERNARD ET AL) 8 December 1998 (1998-12-08) the whole document	2,7-9

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

15 June 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

23/06/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Coda, R

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/FR2005/000474

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4511877	A	16-04-1985	JP 1711302 C	11-11-1992
			JP 3071641 B	14-11-1991
			JP 58142206 A	24-08-1983
			AU 536998 B2	31-05-1984
			AU 1130683 A	25-08-1983
			CA 1184051 A1	19-03-1985
			DE 3374602 D1	23-12-1987
			EP 0087665 A2	07-09-1983
			KR 8601781 B1	22-10-1986
EP 0789234	A	13-08-1997	EP 0789234 A1	13-08-1997
			WO 9613703 A1	09-05-1996
US 5847329	A	08-12-1998	FR 2734050 A1	15-11-1996
			AT 204379 T	15-09-2001
			CA 2175546 A1	10-11-1996
			CN 1143746 A ,C	26-02-1997
			DE 69614446 D1	20-09-2001
			DE 69614446 T2	02-05-2002
			DE 742426 T1	25-09-1997
			EP 0742426 A1	13-11-1996
			ES 2100832 T1	01-07-1997
			GR 97300017 T1	30-06-1997
			JP 2868465 B2	10-03-1999
			JP 9021682 A	21-01-1997
			RU 2126530 C1	20-02-1999
			TR 960988 A2	21-11-1996